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DO YOUR BEST.

REV. E. E. HALE, D. D.

Cannot authors be made to understand that the business of an editor is to give his readers the very best, and nothing but the very best? And cannot they be made to understand that the reason certain persons have succeeded in literature—as Mr. Longfellow, Dr. Holmes, or Mr. Lowell—is that they have never been willing to publish anything which had not had at least the advantage of their own criticism? Any person of thorough self-respect is unwilling to appear, so to speak, in his shirt sleeves when he goes to a party.

What is most exasperating to an editor is the receiving of two, three, four, or ten notes on the subject of the same article. The author sends it first to see if you would like it, and you find that it is but half finished. The next day he sends word that he remembers that he should have said, on the second page, that Cæsar was born in such-and-such a year; will you be good enough to look it up and insert that date? The next day you receive a note saying that, on looking it up in the Public Library, it appears that Cæsar was born on another day; will you please make the correction? The fourth day he writes that, if you will send all the manuscript back to him, he has a friend who has travelled in Bithynia, who can make some notes with regard to Cæsar's campaigns. Then next day there comes a note to say that this friend has suddenly left Boston, and that the notes cannot be added. Then there comes a note asking if you have had time to read it. Then there comes another, saying that having received no answers to any of these notes, he thinks you have probably lost them all, and will you be good enough to send to the Dead Letter Office for them?

It is a good rule for editors to take up, to refuse to handle any papers which do not come to them finished. Certainly, on behalf of their readers, they should refuse to handle any papers which are confessedly not finished. The moment a man writes to say that he can do better than he has done, that moment he says he is not fit for your journal, whatever your journal may be.— *The Commonwealth*.

ADIRONDACK MOUNTAINS.

The management of the Fitchburg railroad has completed arrangements for an excellent quick train service to and from the Adirondack mountains, to take effect in June. The train will leave Boston at 10.30 A. M., running via Fitchburg, Bellows Falls, Rutland, Whitehall, Fort Ticonderoga, Port Henry, Westport, and Bluff Point (the famous new Hotel Champlain, erected by the Delaware & Hudson Co., with every recent improvement and surrounded with wide verandas and beautiful grounds), arriving at Plattsburg about 7 P. M.; returning, leave Plattsburg at 10.30 A. M., running via same route, arriving in Boston about 7.30 P. M. Palace parlor cars will be run through without change, and ample time will be allowed for luncheon both going and returning, at Bellows Falls and Rutland. The route of this train will be through a section of the country unsurpassed for grandeur of scenery, passing as it will through the weird hills of Vermont, and skirting the shores of Lake Champlain.

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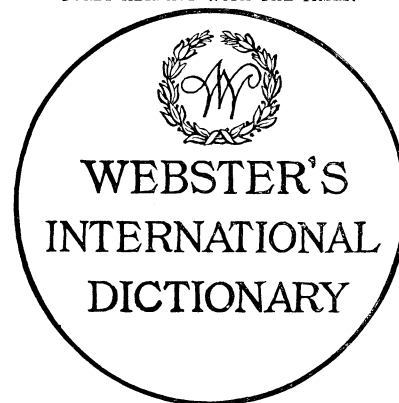
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